THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIUM PRESENTS:

Authoritarian Absorption: The Transnational Making and Unmaking of AIDS Politics in China

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Wednesday, May 4th from 12:30-1:50pm CT
Albion Small Room/SSRB 305
and via Zoom: https://bit.ly/3J2NWYt

In what ways and with what consequences do transnational forces affect authority structures in nondemocratic regimes? My book project, Authoritarian Absorption: The Transnational Making and Unmaking of AIDS Politics in China (Oxford University Press, 2023), uncovers how transnational AIDS interventions have been generative of the formation of a technocratic infectious disease surveillance and control system in China between 1978 and 2018. Specifically, this talk will trace one historical episode (2009-2018) during which transnational organizations enhanced gay activism in ways that ironically integrated urban gay men into the state’s medical gaze. I will use this example to demonstrate how transnational interventions designed to promote democratic governance may cultivate authoritarian infrastructural power.

In-person attendance is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please email Meredith Clason if you would like to attend the talk in the Albion Small Room (SSRB 305). Once the available seats are taken, the event will be available only by Zoom.